

WORDMASTER GRAMMARIAN

The two main jobs of the Wordmaster/Grammarian are:

1. To come up with a word of the day which fits with the theme if possible. The word is written out in BIG letters, with a brief definition and the correct pronunciation on the same large sheet of paper. The two copies are taped up — one to the lectern in front, one to the Clockwatcher's table in the back of the room — prior to the meeting or at the time the Toastmaster calls on you to describe your function early in the meeting. When called upon, stand and say “Mr./Madam Toastmaster, fellow Toastmasters and Guests: my duties as Wordmaster Grammarian are to announce the word of the day, to report on usage of the word of the day after Table Topics and to report on good and bad grammar of all participants at the end of the meeting.”

“The word of the day is a (verb, noun, adjective etc.) _____ which means _____. For example, the word _____ is used as follows in a sentence: _____.”

Stretch your fellow Toastmasters' brains with a Word of the Day that is not only unusual or different, but usable in everyday conversation. It doesn't need to be long, impossible to pronounce, or archaic to be good. For example, if the theme is "Authority," then "dictum" might fit, but "boss" or "leader" or "police" wouldn't if only because they aren't unusual or different. You then listen for use of the word by participants in Table Topics. The Table Topics master will ask for your report about use of the word of the day after at the end of Table Topics.

2. To listen and take note of good uses of language as well as incorrect or awkward uses of the language or poor grammar. The General Evaluator will ask for your report about general use of the language toward the end of the meeting.